

**WAUKESHA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
February 13, 2012  
Minutes**

**Present:**

Mary Madden (NAMI), Chair Troy Norman (Goodwill), Dennis Farrell (WCHHS) Board, Joan Sternweis (Clinical Services Manager), Corrine Gresen (WMH), Lisa McLean (Mental Health Association), Marybeth Vander Male (HIL), Danielle Birdeau (TSSU Supervisor), Terry Findlay (Consumer Advisor), and Linda Cole (Friendships)

**Excused:**

James Hanover (Div. of Voc. Rehab.), Colleen Gonzalez (WCTC), Kathy Mack (Certified Peer Specialist), Maura McMahon (Public Defender's Office)

The meeting was called to order by Troy Norman at 1:38 pm.

**Review and Approval of January 26, 2012 Minutes:**

Corrine Gresen made a motion seconded by Dennis Farrell to approve the January 26, 2012 minutes as published. No discussion. All voted, unanimous. Approved.

**Board Liaison Report – Dennis Farrell**

The presentation for 2013 unmet needs before the HHS board will be at 1:00 on Thursday. The meeting will be held at the County Courthouse in room 179. A Public Hearing will be held on March 29, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Waukesha County Expo building.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIPS) has set a date for a community input opportunity on Tuesday, March 27, sponsored by the Waukesha County CHIPS Steering Committee to discuss health situations that exist and findings of the group, along with a question and answer period. The meeting is from 4:30 – 6:00 pm and it will be held at the Highway Operations garage.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**1. COP Report – Joan Sternweis**

Joan distributed an updated copy of the 2012 COP report which includes the hourly cost for an assessment. Last year the rate was \$78, the new rate is \$79.50 and used if COP is billed for this case management service. Linda Cole made a motion to approve COP plan, second by Mary Madden. All voted, unanimous. Approved.

**2. 2013 Unmet Needs – Joan Sternweis**

Copies of the 2012 list was handed out. This year the presentation will include Joan Sternweis, Troy Norman, Mary Madden, Mary VanderMale, Lisa McLean and Linda Cole.

1. 2012 = Support the continuation of the 2011 array and levels of services provided to Waukesha county residents including access to new psycho pharmaceuticals for both children and adults.

Discussion: The coordinated work of our County HHS Physicians, Benefits Specialists, Nurses, Fiscal staff and case managers secures the most effective treatment in the most cost effective manner possible for our citizens. Program staff assist individuals to acquire and maintain insurance eligibility, lower cost generic medications, and to utilize patient assistance programs and sample medications when available.

2013 = Support the continuation of the 2012 array and levels of services provided to Waukesha county residents including access to new psycho pharmaceuticals for both children and adults.

2. 2012 = Maintain funding to the present 211 (1<sup>st</sup> Call for Help systems).

Discussion: Call volume is increasing and wait times have risen. The need exists to continue to staff the line and keep training and supports high to manage information, assessment and referral services, suicide prevention, emotional support, peer support, crisis intervention, and making a wide variety of resource connections for people in need. The line must operate 24 hours per day to maintain 211 status and to best serve our citizens.

2013 = Maintain the 24 hour capacity of First Call for Help/211 system.

3. 2012 = Provide for cost of living adjustments to residential providers for the Chronically Mentally Ill. (\$40,000)

Discussion: Creativity and client centered adaptations have contained the number of individuals requiring services in 24 hour staffed residential placements. The staff who serve our citizens work at low wages and modest increases are often absorbed by increasing health insurance costs. Staff are motivated by the success of the consumers they work with—seeing growth, improvement, celebrating good days, a new job, a first apartment, or a return home together. Several new service options provide up to 7 day per week support and assistance to enable individuals to transition from 24 hour per day care to independent settings in the community.

2013 = Joan to follow up.

4. 2012 = Support and sustain the continuation of the peer support program in a variety of clinical settings. (\$10,000).

Discussion: Certified Peer Specialists currently provide services in several community settings including Friendships Unlimited, Mental Health Association (MHA), and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Peer Specialists have demonstrated success in providing services through the HHS Comprehensive Community Services and Community Support Programs, through the MHA Peer Support Line, and through the NAMI Supportive Housing Program. Peers share their stories of recovery and inspire others through participation in the Peer to Peer program, the Crisis Intervention Team trainings to law enforcement officers, and in direct contact with consumers and family members. To retain and increase the number of individuals trained and certified to perform peer support services, the workforce of Peer Specialists must grow.

2013 = Recommendation for wording includes adding peer specialist mission statement....to increase and improve and sustain services provided by peer specialists in Waukesha County....build capacity throughout the system....train and sustain established peer specialists and expand to clinical settings who have not been afforded the benefit of the trained peer in their setting. Joan will work on the language. (\$20K)

5. 2012 = Expand vocational services to increase development of community job training sites in co-ordination with the 1915i (community recovery services) program. (\$25,000)

Discussion: Consumers involved in treatment and support services programs benefit significantly from the evidence based practice of Supported Employment Services. The current Employment Specialists provide individual and group based employment readiness training. A need exists to develop and fund individualized work experience placements that allow for the development of job skills, on-site job coaching, preparation to manage symptoms while at a work place, and support with interpersonal dynamics. Accessing existing resources such as the Spring City Corner Clubhouse, Goodwill Industries, Paragon, as well as utilizing individually tailored placements, would create the pathways needed to attain the goals of competitive employment.

2013 = Expand pre employment specialist services to increase work experience options in coordination with 1915i community recovery services.

Joan suggested those presenting to meet at 12:30 at the Courthouse, outside room 179 to discuss the presentation before the meeting. A meeting room will be found at that time.

#### **5. Peer Specialist Committee of Waukesha County – Terry Findlay**

Terry Findlay is here today representing the Peer Specialist Committee. The committee met last week and set up a structure of their organization. They also decided that their first priority is to

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have yearly peer specialist certification classes put together through a collaboration with NAMI, Mental Health Association, Friendships, and Clubhouse. Linda Cole requested that she, Lisa McLean, and Mary Madden need to meet to discuss training opportunities for the Peer Specialists. Terry also said they have completed the pamphlet that will go to Independence First which will be added to their website. Terry distributed a copy of the certified peer specialist breakdown by county; Waukesha County is tied with LaCrosse for third with having 16 peer specialists.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Other**

Next meeting scheduled for March 19, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Dennis Farrell and seconded by Mary Madden to adjourn the meeting. All voted, unanimous. Approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Cooper, Recorder

Minutes were approved *Dagla J. Jansen* Date *3/19/2012*